

IN THE SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

Please cancel paragraph 058 of the Substitute Specification, as filed. Please replace that cancelled paragraph with replacement paragraph 058, as follows.

[058] The upper and/or the lower longitudinal folding apparatus 01, as depicted in Fig. 10, and preferably both has a drive mechanism 05 for the respective folding blade 03, which folding blade drive mechanism 05 is mechanically independent from the transport system, as well as a sensor 18 that is located upstream of the folding gap ~~06-0~~ and which sensor 18 is usable for selecting, or determining the position, or a passage time, of a product 02, or in other words the product phase relation. The movement of the folding blade 03 can be synchronized to the product phase or location by the use of the control device 10. The sensor 18 for each alternative transport track detects the time of the passage of a product 02. The synchronization of the movement of the folding blade 03 or, in case of a deviation from a desired value, the folding time, is corrected by the control device 10. If the longitudinal folding apparatus 01 additionally has a movable buffer 13, 14 in accordance with the embodiments described above, such a movable buffer 13, 14 can also be synchronized via the associated control unit 19, as seen in Figs. 1 to 3. The drive mechanism control unit 10 for the folding blade motor 05 and the control unit 19 for the movable buffer drive motor 16 can here be structurally combined and, if desired, can be a part of a higher order control arrangement.